

STATE:
Virginia

COUNTY:
Roanoke (city)

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Buena Vista

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Penna Avenue and 9th SE

CITY OR TOWN:
Roanoke

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Sixth (M. Caldwell Butler)

STATE: Virginia CODE: 51 COUNTY: (city) CODE: 770

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence Religious Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Roanoke

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Roanoke

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Roanoke County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Salem

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D.C.

CODE:
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Roanoke (city)

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

VLR-1/15/74 NRHP-7/30/74

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Architectural Description

A. General Statement: Buena Vista is an academic Greek Revival plantation house and is a characteristic example of the type of dwelling erected by prosperous planters in central and western Virginia in the 1830's. The form and details of nearly all these houses were supplied by local builders working with architectural handbooks. The house underwent some minor alterations around 1889.

B. Description of Exterior

1. Overall Dimensions: The main section of this large country residence is a two-story, rectilinear mass with a two-story, three-bay wing projecting to the east. In 1962 the Department of Parks and Recreation replaced a one-story porch in the rear with a one-story wing.

2. Foundations: Brick.

3.a. Ornamentation: The brickwork consists of stretcher bond on the main facade with the east wall and the wing in American bond. The west wall is laid in Flemish bond.

b. Pilasters: Doric pilasters using a simple molded capital and brick base alternate with openings on facade of main block and the wing.

c. Hallway extension: A wooden projection also using pilasters connects the main block and wing at the second story level.

4. Porches: A massive two-story diastyle Greek Doric portico dominates the facade, and give the house an imposing quality. The one-story porch on the rear has been replaced by a modern unornamented one-story brick addition which disfigures the once handsome rear elevation.

5. Chimneys: The main structure has two interior-end chimneys and a central chimney serves the wing. All have a simple brick cap.

6.a. Doorways: The central entrance has sidelights and transom with simple pilasters and entablature similar to those separating the bays. The three-part window above echoes this design.

b. Windows: The windows throughout the house have double-hung sashes. Those on the facade and sides of the main part have been replaced by circa 1900 sashes containing a circular pane surrounded by a series of small rectangular panes in the upper sash and a single sheet of glass in the lower sash. The windows on the rear elevation and the wings have either six-over-six or four-over four sashes. The facade's three-part window is echoed on the rear by a similar window in a corresponding position.

7. Roof: Shallow hip roof covered with raised seam sheetmetal.

8. Cornice: Simple unornamented Doric entablature surrounds the main block and wing.

C. Description of Interior

1. Floor Plans

a. 1st and 2nd floor plans: This is the usual floor plan for a house of this size and period, having a central hall with two rooms separated by sliding doors on each side.

b. The central hall is divided into a vestibule and stairhall by an elliptical arch. This arch appears to be part of the alterations circa 1889. The same plan is repeated on the second floor, although a narrow passage to the wing is sandwiched between two rooms.

2. Stair: The stairway is an open-well, open-string, two-flight plan

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Roanoke (city)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7.

type with twisted balusters. The simple, molded handrail is scrolled at the first floor. In the well, fluted columns and a closed-up alcove support a three-part window. It is not, however, original to the building. Though we have no documentation, we have read that the stairway and elliptical arch were 1889 renovations.

3. Wall and Ceiling: painted plaster.

4. Doorways: The most obvious characteristic of the doors is their large size. The doors on the second floor have symmetrically molded trim with a patera design inside the corner block. On the first floor the doors are four part with shouldered architectural trim. This design, which seems earlier than the other, is also repeated in the windows.

5. Fireplaces: The first floor fireplaces are black marble, and are probably not original, while very simple wooden mantels are used on the second floor.

D. Site: Buena Vista, set on a hill below Mill Mountain, still retains a commanding view of the area. There is a large tract of land in front of the house which sustains the overall effect of the building. Without this park setting, the house would lose much of its scenic character.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Buena Vista is an imposing ante-bellum plantation house occupying a prominent site within the city limits of Roanoke. Erected around 1840, the house is a notable example of the type of Greek Revival architecture constructed in the area by master builders who acquired their knowledge of Greek detail through architectural handbooks.

Buena Vista was built for George Plater Tayloe (1804-1897), son of John Tayloe III and Anne Ogle Tayloe of the noted plantation Mount Airy in Richmond County. Tayloe was born and raised at Mount Airy and later attended Princeton University. Following his graduation he moved to the western part of the state to manage a source of the family income -- two iron furnaces, Catawba II and Cloverdale. These furnaces along with 1132 acres of land around Cloverdale had been purchased by the Tayloes from a Thomas Madison in 1817.

George Tayloe married Mary Elizabeth Langhorne in 1830, and in 1833 he traded his father-in-law, Colonel William Langhorne, a section of the Cloverdale property for the 598 acre Buena Vista tract. This tract or plantation originally was known as Roanoke, and the name was changed to Buena Vista in 1838 when a section of lower Botetourt County became Roanoke County. Tayloe demolished the Langhorne house and had erected the present Greek Revival dwelling on the plantation's most commanding site. The construction date for Tayloe's house traditionally is given as 1833, the year he acquired the land, but architectural evidence indicates a date more around 1840. In any case, the house would have taken several years to build.

George Tayloe was a prominent figure in both state and local affairs. He represented Roanoke County in the state legislature, and was a signer of the Ordinance of Secession, although he originally was opposed to secession. Tayloe is remembered in the Roanoke area chiefly for his many years of support of Hollins College. His financial aid saw the school through difficult times and in 1844 he became one of the original thirteen members of the Board of Trustees. He later was made chairman of the Board and remained in that position until his death.

In 1890 Tayloe sold most of the Buena Vista property to the Buena Vista Land Company. The house and twenty acres was given to his son-in-law, Mortimer P. Rogers, but Tayloe retained life rights to the house for himself. Rogers died in 1891 and Buena Vista was inherited by his widow, Virginia Tayloe Rogers, in 1897. The property passed to her heirs at her death in 1929, and in 1937 Buena Vista was sold by the Rogers family to the city of

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Roanoke (city)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8.

Roanoke. Since that time the city has used the property as a city park and recreation center.

CL

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Barnes, Raymond, A History of the City of Roanoke. Commonwealth Press Radford, Virginia, 1968 .
 The Hollins Archives.
Journal of the Roanoke Historical Society. "Buena Vista-Roanoke Plantation", Anne Montgomery. Winter 1964. pp. 23-25.
 Kegley, F. B. Kegley's Virginia Frontier. The Southwest Historical Society Roanoke, 1938.
 Material found at the Roanoke Historical Society (listed previously).
 Stoner, Robert, A Seed Bed of the Republic. Commonwealth Press, Roanoke, 1962.
The Semi-Annual, Hollins College, Roanoke. Vol. XII, No. II. Mary Williamson, (cont.)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37° 15' 59 "	79° 55' 39 "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	37° 15' 59 "	79° 55' 16 "				
SE	37° 15' 41 "	79° 55' 16 "				
SW	37° 15' 41 "	79° 55' 39 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 20 acres.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: January, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
 221 Governor Street

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Director Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission</p> <p>Title _____</p> <p>Date _____</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date _____</p>
---	--

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

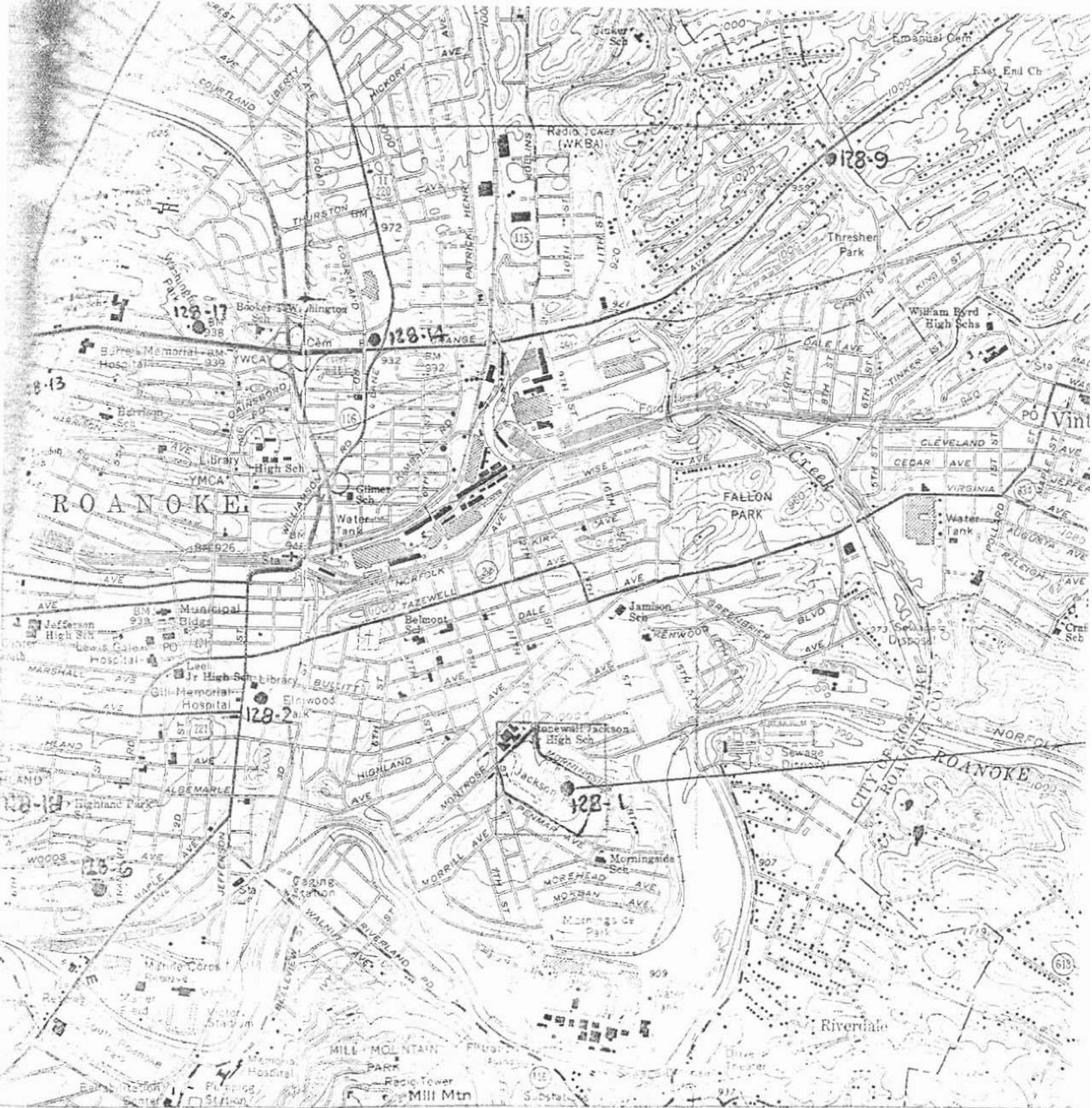
STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Roanoke (city)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

9.

Editor. 1897-1900. p. 97.

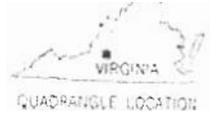
Unpublished mms by Isabel Hill, Page Murrell, Mabs Brockenbrough and Biba Jones in Archives of Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission. Journal of the Roanoke Historical Society. "Fourteen Furnaces of Botetourt", Winter 1970. pp.40-41.



(GARDEN CITY)
5054 III NW

SCALE 1:24000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
AND VIRGINIA DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST